



THE BULLSHEET

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rain. And only a few chigger bites to remind me of the good times for a week or so.

I think everyone enjoyed W5SJS's hospitality. Thanks Bob for another great weekend at your QTH in the country. I think all went well except for the motor home generator that ran ape--- at the SSB/VHF station. It did blow one of John's , KB5IUA's power supply's up. But Jim, N5DC's ole Red got pressed into service once and performed flawlessly for the rest of the operating event.

I did hear some of the raw numbers on the Tuesday net. Thanks Dale, KG5U for the info, and also for being the net-control. I promise I'll set up a 2 meter rig here in the shack so I'll be able to check in the future. But the numbers did sound like we did better than last year and exceeded the goals of the station captains for this year.

Once again we enjoyed having the AMSTAT group out. I know they enjoyed the set up there in Dave's new motor home. Being on top of the hill didn't hurt either. I'm sure Dale will have a full report at the meeting on the 10th.

Speaking of the meeting, it looks like I'm going to have to miss another one. I only work about 2 or 3 evenings a year and wouldn't you know it, I've been scheduled to work the 10th. Henry is also going to have to miss so it looks like Earl, N5TU will draw the black bean. Maybe he can con Madison into presiding over gathering. So have a good meeting and don't spend too much. Congratulations go out to Madison for his dues gathering efforts during Field Day weekend. He outdid himself, though he did let one get away! Not his fault, he sez.. Have a great month and hope to see you next meeting.

73, de Bob, N5ET

Announcements

Meeting – The Texas DX Society Meets the second Friday of each month, except when the date is changed by the Board of Directors.

How to Reach Us

On the World Wide Web:

<http://wb5fnd.tech.uh.edu:80/~tdxs/>

On 2 Meters:

147.96/36 MHz

On Packet:

K5WA on 144.950MHz

or

Connect to TDXS95 (144.950MHz) and then connect to K5WA

The Prez Sez – de Bob, N5ET

July, 1997. Another year half gone. But that also means we just enjoyed another TDXS Field Day. And did we ever. I grand time was had by all. The WX even cooperated, though it did get a tad bit warm. At least no

INTERNET Goodies

The BS7H has a web page. It is accessible via JA1BK's page. The address is www.iinet.or.jp/JA1BK/home2.html At the end of the BS7H story there is a log search utility

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Contest Corner – de Joe, W5ASP

Most of you are somewhat familiar with the "Lumberyard". And you probably know that it hasn't put on a really serious multi effort in some time. Well, that's about to change. Top management, i.e. W5SJS, W5MJ and W5ASP, have decided to stir the pot a bit, and see if we can put together a major effort for CQ World Wide Phone (the last weekend in October) this year. It would be the first big operation under our new call, N5KC, and would be open to TDXS members and friends. In case you're not aware of it there are two towers, 130 ft and 150 ft with a 4 el KLM 40 (130'), a 6 el KLM 10 (140'), a 6 el KLM 15 (160'), and a 5 el 205CAS Hy-Gain 20 (150'). It is definitely NOT a "modest" station.

That's the good news... The other side of the coin is that there is some serious antenna work to be done. We have five antennas in need of repair, and plans to put up some additional wires. Obviously, what's needed is "worker bees", the more the merrier. Our first scheduled work day is Saturday, August 16th (right after the August TDXS meeting.)

If you have any interest in joining in this effort, please contact either Madison, W5MJ or Joe, W5ASP right away. If we can get a good crew together, we ought to be able to complete the work in two weekends. There's only one catch... those who work... operate! We're not looking for "drop-ins" during the contest.

If we can pull this off, we'd like to get a regular schedule of contest operations going to give our club (and it's friends) a convenient place to operate. It's up to those interested to speak up... we're listening.

The 1996 ARRL Ten Meter scores came out in the July issue of QST. TDXS placed 8th in the Medium Club Category... not too shabby for a rather poorly attended event. Chuck, KE5FI, our resident 10 M expert, was the Single Op Phone/High Power leader. Once again he demonstrated the awesome capability of Sid, K5XI's 200 ft. 10 M death ray. Dale, KG5U and Mike, K5NZ both managed top five finishes in the Midwest Region in their categories. I counted seven entries from TDXS in the STX standings. In addition to the above K5DX, N5TU, K5WA and W5ASP put in time and effort towards the club score. Perhaps we should consider a full scale club "run for the gavel" this December?

Coming up this month is the IARU on July 12th and the RSGB IOTA contest the weekend of the 26th. Then in August there is the WAE CW, along with the NAQP CW and Phone events.

I'll be putting together teams for the NAQP starting NOW. If you were on one of the teams earlier this year, you are ON THE TEAM now. You must tell me if you find you can't make it for some reason... otherwise expect public

ridicule. If you missed the winter contests, sing out ASAP and be a part of the action... it's a blast!

Though Field Day is "NOT a contest", here are the CW station QSO breakdowns from FD, thanks to Earl, N5TU. I think it's one of the better efforts in recent years. Haven't seen anything posted by the phone guys.

UTC	OP	QSOs/hr	Total QSOs
1800	K5GN	85	85
1900	KG5U	78	163
2000	N5TU	70	233
2100	NJ1V	85	318
2200	NJ1V	72	390
2300	N5RP	68	458
0000	AD5A	62	520
0100	AD5A	50	570
0200	K5GN	53	623
0300	K5GN	90	713
0400	N5TU	73	786
0500	N5TU	74	860
0600	KG5U	65	925
0700	KG5U	68	993
0800	KG5U	76	1069
0900	NO5W	59	1128
1000	NO5W	48	1176
1100	NJ1V	59	1235
1200	NJ1V	46	1281
1300	NJ1V	52	1342
1400	KG5U	79	1421
1500	N5TU	79	1500
1600	NO5W	74	1574
1700	K5GN	59	1633

"Once-upon-a-time" we kept detailed records of such things. Wonder what ever happened to them... (GN, any idea?)

DX – de Buzz, N5UR

Conditions continue to be poor, with Europe only coming through on 20 from 2200-0000Z in the evenings if we are lucky. The sunspots of the new cycle must have found some of that SPF 45, as the solar flux is hard pressed to break 70, much less the 100+ some of the pundits had forecast. However, we are having nice openings into Asia on 40 every morning from 1000-1200Z and generally a bit later on 20. YB, JA, HL, UA0 are on evry morning on 40, and many have worked the XUs 3W XV HS etc on 20, although without a beam you'll just hear the 6s work them!

There are no major expeditions scheduled for July, although many of us are waiting for the annual IOTA contest the last week of July. Many rare and not so rare islands will be on that weekend. If you want to get the schedule I suggest you subscribe to the 425 DX Bulletin on the INTERNET, as it lists all upcoming islands and

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DXpeditions. The url is <http://www-dx.deis.unibo.it/htdx/index.html> and it comes out weekly in English Spanish and Italian, your choice! Here are some of the stations to look for this month:

3D2, FIJI. Ron, ZL1AMO, may be active once again July 6-8th as 3D2RW while on his way to Tarawa (T30) and possibly Banaba (T33). QSL via CBA. Things may be crowded on Banadba as Jack, VK2GJH, will be active as T33JH from July 16-22. He is not member of the WIA and therefore receives no QSLs via the bureau. QSL via Jack D Haden, Box 299, Ryde 2112, NSW, Australia

3W Vietnam Hiroo, JA2EZD/XU2A, is helping to build up the club station 3W6LI which is already active, following Hiroo's successful first Vietnamese IOTA expedition this past weekend as 3W4EZD on Quan Phu Quoc island. QSLs to his home call XW2A with IRCs no dollars. Turnaround is less than 3 weeks. I just wish he would operate as XW2A!

9M0, LAYANG-LAYANG ISLAND (Spratly Islands). Bob, N2OO and Bob, N0RN, will be active from here August 14-18th. Operation is expected to be on 30, 20, 17 and 15 meters CW/SSB. There will be two stations operational using beam antennas provided by Cushcraft. The license is confirmed, but the callsign is still being negotiated. Upon completion of this operation, they will return to resume activity of their special event station 9M6HIL in East Malaysia.

A6, U.A.E. Abdullah, A61AQ is up from Sharjah and puts a strong signal into Houston most evenings around 2200-2300z. His QSL manager is N1DG who can also provide cards for A61AD, A61AO and A61AQ, while his son handles cards for A61AF. Since July of last year, Don's address is: Don Greenbaum, 27 Pill Hill Lane, Duxbury, MA 02332 For those still needing A6, Don has as a daily sched on 14240 (+/- QRM) at 0000-0100z.

BV - TAIWAN BV2KI and others will activate Matu Island as B00M from 2-160m and during the IOTA Contest from July 24-31. QSL via BV2KI, Bruce Yih, Box 84-609, Taipei, Taiwan ROC or via bureau.

CY0, SABLE ISLAND. Jarek, VA3NCD can use the callsign CY0NCD while visiting the island between August 15 and August 17th. Operations will be on 80/40/20/15 meters bands, mostly CW, at the bottom of the bands (7 kHz +/- QRM).

JU, MONGOLIA. A group of Korean, Mongolian, and U.S. amateurs will activate JU4HL from July 10-13th. Members of this joint DXpedition to Gobi Desert are HL1CG, HL1DK, HL1FB, HL1IE, HL1IFM, JT1CD, JT1FBB, and W6EE. CW & SSB will be operated on all HF bands including WARC bands. QSL cards must be sent direct or via bureau to Mr. Hyungsuk Song, HL1CG, Kaehwa APT

#107-305, Banghwa-3-dong, Kangso-ku, Seoul 157-223, Korea.

VK9L - LORD HOWE ISLAND Jun, JH4RHF, Kumiko, JR4DUW, and Hiro, JR4PMX, plan to become QRV from OC-004 signing VK9RH, VK9YL and VK9MX from July 24-29. QSL for Jun and Kumiko via JH4RHF, for Hiro via JR4PMX.

See you in the pileups!

CY9AA Memories – de Dennis, K7VB

Friends,

Now that I have returned to Nevada and have had a couple days to reflect on my recent DXpedition to St. Paul's Island with Mike-VE9AA and Doug-VE1PZ, I find myself in the post-expedition glow that so many other have had the good fortune to experience after a particularly difficult expedition.

Though Mike and Doug have known each other for a number of years, I had not met either before arriving in Nova Scotia a few days before our scheduled boat departure for our CY9AA "Rock" as we have called it for some time. I am sure that we all were a little curious and maybe a little concerned about the days to come not knowing how each would behave under the many potential situations we might face. As things turned out, we truly did get to see each other in just about every possible scenario one can expect on an uninhabited island assault of this nature.

I had the advantage of having been on what turned out to be quite a similar operation, NR5M-K5LZO/KP5 in 1985. It wasn't until this one was over that I remembered the many challenges of landing by boat on a hostile island...

The work hauling all the gear up from the landing spot on the St. Paul's up over the sharp uneven wet rocks; up and down the ever higher mounds before reaching the old abandoned lighthouse keeper's building turned out to be a true test of staying power and determination for all. The landing was very difficult and dangerous for all including the captain of the Heidi M II who worked so hard to insure that we didn't miss another day of operating waiting for perfect landing conditions that just weren't to be had.

We had left port on June 27th (a day late due to foul weather) knowing that we were going to squeeze in between storms. We weren't even half way to St. Paul's before Mother Nature's angry skies swept in on us earlier than anticipated. Twice during the passage the brave Captain had to bring the Heidi M II dead in the water so he could go over the stern in pounding seas to deal with our swamped and uncooperative landing row boat being towed behind. The pitching of the boat even had this seasoned sailor more than a little concerned about the possibility of being swamped due to the amount of water we were

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taking over the sides with the Heidi M's gunwales disappearing into the wave walls for uncomfortably long periods of time while the Captain was aboard the row boat bailing bucket after of bucket of sea water out of the landing craft.

Soon the rain came and the three of us looked at each other in a way that confirmed that we all knew that the landing might not be possible. Very few words were spoken as the Captain remounted his captain's chair and began navigated is 34 foot long liner cod fishing boat as best he could into the mounting seas. Never once did he suggest that we turn back and I am proud of my CY9AA team mates that not one of us lost his courage and determination to make the landing that afternoon if at all humanly possible. This even with one of our members hard on his knees seasick with the seas swirling around him.

Finally we spotted the southern island of the St. Paul's on the radar amongst the storm clouds. Another hour and we had her in sight. As we made passage down the leeward side of the south island, the winds took another notch up in speed and a turn towards an unfavorable direction. Still the Captain continued onward. The three of us stood together as our destination for the last year, the northern island, came into view as we rounded a sharp outcropping of the south island. We exchanged looks but no words. The moment had arrived...

The next 12 hours are little more than a blur for me as I am sure they are for the other two. No words I am capable of generating could describe what private personal hell each man went through to land the gear, get it up the hill inside the building then have to immediately go back out into the horizontal rains driven by gale force winds. Even as exhausted and cold as we were, each man contributed what he had left inside him to step back outside and get some antennas up so the Deserving who had supported this expedition would get his or her just reward-a CY9 QSO in the log.

I can never thank my partners enough for dedicating themselves to getting up a 40 meter antenna for me so I could enjoy the very thing I live for - a 40 meter CW pile-up. A R7000 vertical and 6 meter J-pole made it up as well before we had to finally admit to each other that we were at the end of our endurance. Mike, our Team Leader, also had expressed concern for our well being due to the possible affects of body heat loss due to the fact that we all had been soaked to the skin for so many hours in such high winds at temperatures that allowed us to see our breaths'.

We had agreed that no one would get on the air until there was sufficient equipment in place so that we all could share the joy of that first CQ. Our reward for all the anguish we had gone through finally came and the

DXpedition was finally a reality to the waiting crowds. As expected, CQs weren't even necessary as many of the alert were there on our published frequencies listening to our tune-ups. Many jumped the gun but we didn't answer anyone until all three of us were in place and Mike gave us the "GO !". The fun began and what pile ups they were. I eventually had to get up to exchange my wet soggy underwear for dry long johns, though...

Within less than an hour we knew something was wrong. It didn't take the boys from up here in the northern latitudes long to find the answer for the weak watery signals. One trip outside to a high spot just outside the building confirmed that the Northern Lights were shining in all their glory. Some depression set in but for the umpteenth time we uttered words spoken so many times that day - "It is what it is, Men."

Again, my mind goes pretty blank except for the numerous highlights that occurred the next couple days. All the boxes and containers that were opened to get our gear out pretty much stayed where they were opened. The three us did the very best we could to deal with the radio conditions that were dealt us. We operated and we rested in brief fits of muscle twitching sleep. We ate once a day pretty much on the schedule of hunger pains Doug suffered--our cook my default as neither Mike or I had the energy to get up and eat.

Finally the conditions began to rise as the affects of the Northern Lights wore off. I think it was the third day on the island that all three of us shared our first round of common laughs and some sort of high spirit joined us. We operated with a renew sense of urgency as the high HF bands finally began to produce some Q's. 6 meters continued to be quite unproductive for us with the exception of a contact with CT3FT. Thank God, the last day gave us a long opening on 6 and Mike made about 275 contacts. Meanwhile, Doug was struggling with 160 meter antenna challenges since the 160' beacon tower we had looked forward to using had disappeared before our arrival under somewhat clouded circumstances. Doug had the foresight to bring two weather balloons and the gas to lift them which proved to be the ticket to giving many many 160 ops a new one. Me--I did what I do...grind them out hour after hour where the MUF would allow me. Ultimately, we made almost 12,000 contacts. We could have probably made many more but we stuck to our operating plan which was to cover the bands that had the biggest need for CY9. Those bands usually closed in the evening, though, which allowed me to join you folks in some of the best and most memorable CW pile-ups I have ever had the honor of running on 40 meters. Mike and Doug have my deepest gratitude for allowing me to work 40 each night to my heart's content. The rate meter hit 315 for me once and Mike saw CT give him a 650 plus burst on 20 phone. When we finally got into our zone, I think each op found

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his soul being refreshed. We would need it...we still had to get off that rock soon.

The departure time had to be moved up, again because of Mother Nature, cutting into our operating time. We all grew silent again as the time came to shutdown and pack up for the return trip to our landing spot in the "tickle" between the two islands making up the St. Paul's. We each grabbed two hours of sleep. I ate a bag of trail mix and a Pepsi and began the haul up and down the mounds and over the rocks. Mike and Doug worked on the antennas and coiling up rope and coax. About seven hours later a new boat arrived to take us off the island as the Heidi M II had followed the cod over to the Newfoundland coast. The skipper of the "Greyhound" proved to be of the same cut as our first Captain and three hours later all the gear was aboard and we took a turn around the St. Paul's for one last look at our home for the last few days.

The trip in proved uneventful (Thank God). As a matter of fact, we actually got a sunburn ! The unloading of the boat back in Bay St. Lawrence went quickly and we soon were in the closest eating establishment negotiating for a two steak dinner each. I am sure that we were quite a sight with our unshaven dirty faces and fish smelling clothes. They don't know how lucky they were that the fish smell was dominant over the others that were most certainly present...

I wish to thank all of you for allowing us to have this adventure and to enjoy all those monster pile-ups. And to Mike and Doug, I will be forever in debt for their decision to pick me as their No. 3. It was a true honor for me to make this trip and share the experience.

73 Dennis Motschenbacher K7BV

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